

BODY ART FACILITY PLAN CHECK GUIDELINES



County of San Diego
Department of Environmental Health
FHD-Plan Check Program
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GENERAL REVIEW

- 1. When a tattoo, permanent cosmetic, branding or piercing business is constructed or remodeled, plans and specifications for such construction, remodel or alteration shall be submitted to the Department of Environmental Health (DEH), Food & Housing Division (FHD) Plan Check. The local building official may require plans as well.
 - A. Scaled drawing shall include a floor plan indicating the layout of procedure areas, cleaning and sterilization area, sink counters, storage areas, equipment, toilet facilities and reception areas shall be submitted for review.
 - B. Plan submissions shall include a finish schedule for sanitary walls, floors and ceiling as approved by DEH.
 - C. All construction is to be done in accordance with approved plans. Approval by DEH and all applicable permits must be obtained before commencing work.
 - a) A preliminary inspection will be done during the project when plumbing is installed as needed or at 50% completion. The Health Permit for operation may be applied for after this inspection.
 - b) A final inspection is conducted upon completion of all work and approval from the building official if applicable. It is the responsibility of the owner, operator or contract to call the
 - D. If reopening an existing body art facility that has no current health permit, a pre-opening consultative inspection must be applied for in person at the DEH office. An appointment will be made for a visit to the site by a Plan Check Specialist. The consultation is no guarantee that plans may not be needed.
 - 1) After the pre-opening inspection, the Health Permit to operate is applied for.
 - 2) A final inspection is scheduled prior to start-up after corrective actions, if required, have been completed.

FACILITY CONSTRUCTION

1. General Premises

- A. Floors in the work areas and restroom shall be constructed of materials that are smooth, durable, impervious and easily cleanable. All floors surfaces must to be capable of being maintained in a sanitary manner. Floors in wet areas to self cove up walls at least 4" with a minimum 3/8" radius at the floor/wall juncture.
- B. The walls and ceilings in work areas and restrooms shall be smooth, washable and nonabsorbent. Concrete blocks or other masonry used in wall construction to shall also be made smooth and sealed for a washable surface. Restrooms shall be light colored.
- C. The premises shall be constructed and maintained to be free from vermin or rodent infestation and excessive dust, dirt and debris.

2. Service Area

- A. The service area shall contain the workstation(s). Each workstation shall have a minimum of eighty (80) square feet of floor space and shall be separated from the reception or the waiting area by means of a panel or other physical barrier at least four feet high. Patron or customers shall be tattooed or pierced only in the service area. The operating tables or chairs shall be separated from patrons by at least ten (10) feet.
- B. Each workstation shall allow for privacy when performing discretionary tattoo or piercing. This may be accomplished by the provision of a physical barrier such as walls and doors or through the use of screens, etc.
- C. Every workstation must have unimpeded access to a hand sink without having to open a door.
 - 1) This hand sink is for the exclusive use of the body arts practitioner to wash their hands and prep customers if needed. Each sink shall be equipped with hot and cold running water dispensed via a mixing faucet with knee, foot or wrist action controls. Also available at the station shall be soap in a single service dispenser, an approved or hospital grade germicidal solution, and paper towels in a single service dispenser positioned away from the immediate work area but near sink.
 - 2) A handsink may be shared between workstations if the handsink is readily accessible and visible to each workstation. However if the workstation is more than 25 feet away from the shared hand sink an additional hand sink shall be provided as needed.
- D. All surfaces and equipment including counters, cabinets, chairs, and dispensers must be made from smooth non-porous material, such as metal,

hard plastic, vinyl, or laminate, which is able to withstand repeated cleaning and disinfecting.

- 1) A mayo stand is recommended to store equipment used during the body art procedure.
- E. Easily cleanable, covered receptacles shall be provided at each workstation for non-hazardous waste paper or other refuse.
- F. A sealable, rigid and puncture proof 'sharps container' must be provided at each work station for the disposal of single-use sharp objects that come in contact with blood and/or body fluids.
- G. Storage cabinetry of a sanitary design shall be provided at each workstation for storage of instruments, dyes, ointments, bandages, etc.
- H. Separate workstations for different body art procedures (i.e. tattooing and piercing) to be provided.
- I. Where nail, hair and other activities in which irritants (including but not limited to fumes, nail dust and hair spray) are present, there must be a complete separation of space from body art procedures. Complete separation shall be provided through the use of solid barriers (wall, door) to avoid potential contamination of tattooing or piercing activities.

3. Cleaning Area

- A. Unless all equipment and supplies used in the course of a body art procedure are single-use, purchased as pre-packaged and pre-sterilized, the body art facility shall having a cleaning room or area for cleaning instruments and equipment, and for the handling and storage of sterilized equipment separated from any other area.
 - 1) This room to be further subdivided into a "soiled area" and "clean area".
 - 2) At the cleaning area, a stainless steel biohazard sink(s) is to be provided. This sink to be at least eighteen (18) inches by eighteen (18) inches with a depth of at least ten (10) inches and used for cleaning contaminated instruments. This sink shall not be used as a janitorial sink.
 - 3) Included in this area is the ultrasonic cleaning device and approved autoclave as required. Chemical and dry heat sterilizers are not accepted.

4. Toilet facilities

A. Each shop shall be provided with adequate, conveniently located and properly installed toilet facilities for its employees and patrons available during all hours of business. Patrons shall not access toilet facilities through any work area or cleaning room.

- B. Toilet facilities shall be of sanitary design, easily cleanable and constructed per local codes.
- C. Toilet facilities are to have tight fitting, self-closing doors. Toilet room shall not open directly into a work area.
- D. Adequate ventilation shall be provided in the toilet facility by means of an operable, screened window or by mechanical ventilation ducted to the outside.
- E. Soap, paper towels or other approved hand drying device and toilet paper shall be made available in sanitary dispensers.
- F. Hot and cold running water under pressure via a mixing faucet shall be provided at the handwashing sink. If the faucet is self-closing, it shall stay on a minimum of fifteen (15) seconds.

5. Lighting/Ventilation

- A. The establishment shall be well ventilated.
- B. Workstations must be provided with at least fifty (50) foot-candles of artificial light at the procedure level.

6. Utilities

- A. The water supply shall be from an approved potable source.
- B. Sewage including liquid wastes shall be disposed of in a public sewer or, in the absence thereof, in a manner approved by this Department.

OPERATION

- 1. Only articles considered necessary to the routine operation and maintenance of the tattoo or body piercing facility shall be permitted in the shop.
- 2. A separate room or storage area for chemicals, and other supplies should be included in the design of the business.
- 3. Documents, including the Infection Prevention and Control Plan (IPCP), or any record, file, paper, process, invoice, or receipt for the purpose of determining compliance shall be secured separately
 - A. The IPCP shall be reviewed prior to final approval to operate
- 4. Pets or other animals shall not be permitted in the service area of the business, except for trained service dogs for disabled clients or practitioners.
 - A. Fish in an aquarium in the waiting area is acceptable.
- 5. No smoking, eating or drinking shall be permitted in the service or cleaning area.
- 6. A separate janitorial sink is recommended for the cleaning of mops.
- 7. Body art practitioners may not set up temporary facilities at fairs, festivals or expositions unless written approval is obtained from this Department.
- 8. Check with the local city zoning authority for other conditions or restrictions that may apply to the operation of a body arts facility.

